Attorney Docket No.: 80398.P178C   <u>Patent</u>

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:)
)   Art Unit: 2641
    Franz, et al.   )
)
Serial No.: 09/239,640   )   Examiner: Martin Lerner
)
Filed: January 29, 1999   )
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Washington, D.C. 20231   Signature   Date

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

    Prior to the examination of the above-referenced application on the merits it is respectfully requested that the following amendments be entered.

<u>IN THE SPECIFICATION</u>

    Please substitute the paragraph beginning on page 45, line 9, second full paragraph on page 45, with the following paragraph:

    Another approach to creating a language model is to use other types of basic probabilities. For example, syntactic analysis may be performed, and the basic probabilities may make reference to the probabilities of certain grammar rules used in the analysis. Or, the basic probabilities could be make reference to grammatical functions such as "subject", "verb", "object", so that a basic probability is formulated of the form $Pverb=word_i/subject=word_j object=word_k$.

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The confirmation/selection action performed by the user to carry out adaptation of the language model may be used regardless of the type of basic probability used. The effect of this will be that the hypothesis construction component adapts to the utterances that the user makes, and learn to favor utterances that the user is more likely to make. Then, these utterances will appear higher and higher on the ordered list of utterance hypotheses, and the speech translator becomes relatively easier to use.

Please substitute the paragraph beginning on page 56, line 3, first full paragraph on page 56, with the following paragraph:

The rule for consonant doubling apply to verb ending in one of the following consonants immediately preceding by a short vowel. When the rules for consonant doubling apply, the final consonant is doubled for present participle, simple past and past participle forms. If the verb is irregular, consonant doubling should regularly occur for the present participle form. Third person singular verb forms remain unaffected by this rule. Verbs that end in a short bowel plus one of the consonants listed, but do not follow the consonant doubling rule (exceptions and irregular verbs) are not tagged with this feature in the dictionary. The effect of the consonant doubling rules with examples follows:

Please substitute the paragraph beginning on page 57, line 12, second full paragraph on page 57, with the following paragraph:

In an embodiment, verbs that end in "y" immediately preceded by a consonant are handled by the rules as follows, but are not so limited:

3rd person singular: change final "y" to "ie" and apply default rule (add "s")

(e.g. "apply" -> "applies"; "cry" -> "cries");

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simple past and past participle: change final "y" to "i" and apply default rule (add "ed") (e.g. "carry" -> "carried"; "fry" -> "fried");

present participle: apply default rule (add "ing").

IN THE DRAWINGS

Please refer to the attached drawings and the Request To Approve Drawing Changes.

REMARKS

Consideration of the application as preliminarily amended is respectfully requested. If there are any additional charges, please charge them to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: _June 20_____, 2001   _Maria McCormack Sobrino_

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<u>VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE</u>

<u>IN THE SPECIFICATION</u>

Please substitute the paragraph beginning on page 45, line 9, second full paragraph on page 45, with the following paragraph:

Another approach to creating a language model is to use other types of basic probabilities. For example, syntactic analysis may be performed, and the basic probabilities may make reference to the probabilities of certain grammar rules used in the analysis. Or, the basic probabilities could be make reference to grammatical functions such as "subject", "verb", "object", so that a basic probability is formulated of the form $P[(]verb=word_i /subject=word_j$ $object=word_k$. The confirmation/selection action performed by the user to carry out adaptation of the language model may be used regardless of the type of basic probability used. The effect of this will be that the hypothesis construction component adapts to the utterances that the user makes, and learn to favor utterances that the user is more likely to make. Then, these utterances will appear higher and higher on the ordered list of utterance hypotheses, and the speech translator becomes relatively easier to use.

Please substitute the paragraph beginning on page 56, line 3, second full paragraph on page 56, with the following paragraph:

The rule for consonant doubling apply to verb ending in one of the following consonants immediately preceding by a short vowel. When the rules for consonant doubling apply, the final consonant is doubled for present participle, simple past and past participle forms. If the verb is irregular, consonant doubling should regularly occur for the present participle form. Third person singular verb forms remain unaffected by this rule. Verbs that end in a

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short bowel plus one of the consonants listed, but do not follow the consonant doubling rule (exceptions and irregular verbs) are not [be] tagged with this feature in the dictionary. The effect of the consonant doubling rules with examples follows:

Please substitute the paragraph beginning on page 57, line 12, second full paragraph on page 57, with the following paragraph:

In an embodiment, verbs that end in "y" immediately preceded by a consonant are handled by the rules as follows, but are not so limited:

3rd person singular: change final "y" to ["